

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A portable flotation platform for supporting a load above the level of a body of water, the platform comprising:
 - 5 a deck of overall density less than that of water presenting a generally planar upper surface for the load;
 - an anchor device which when deployed and connected to the deck holds the deck against horizontal movement;
 - 10 the deck having at least one connector for detachably securing the deck to the anchor device for vertical movement of the deck relative to the anchor; and
 - a hand attachment device on the deck for enabling a user to grasp the hand attachment device to carry the deck to the point of deployment at the body of water.
- 15 2. The portable flotation platform of claim 1 wherein the hand attachment device comprises a handle secured to and projecting from the exterior of the deck.
3. The portable flotation device of claim 1 wherein the hand attachment device comprises a recess formed in the exterior of the deck to form a handle.
- 20 4. The portable flotation platform of claim 1 wherein the hand attachment device comprises a strap attached to the deck.
5. The portable flotation device of claim 1 wherein the deck further has ends, sides,
25 and a bottom and further comprises a wheel mounted on the deck at one end thereof for rotation around a generally horizontal axis, with the hand attachment being positioned at the other end of the deck.
- 30 6. The portable flotation platform of claim 5 further comprises a pair of wheels, with the wheels spaced apart from each other at said one end.

7. The portable flotation platform of claim 5 wherein the bottom of the deck defines a plane and the wheel projects down below the plane of the bottom of the deck.

8. A portable flotation platform for supporting a load above the level of a body of
5 water, the platform comprising:

a deck overall density less than that of water presenting a generally planar upper surface for the load;

an anchor device which when deployed and connected to the deck holds the deck against horizontal movement;

10 the deck having at least one connector for detachably securing the deck to the anchor device for vertical movement of the deck relative to the anchor;

anchor storage at the exterior of the deck for detachably securing the anchor to the deck when the anchor is not deployed for carrying the anchor along with the deck to a point of deployment; and

15 a carrying attachment for enabling a user to carry the deck to the point of deployment.

9. The portable flotation platform of claim 8 wherein the anchor comprises a pole and the anchor storage comprises a recess formed at the exterior of the deck to receive the
20 anchor.

10. The portable flotation platform of claim 9 further comprises a closure to hold the anchor in the recess.

25 11. The portable flotation platform of claim 8 wherein the anchor comprises a pole and the anchor storage comprises a strap secured at its ends to the deck to form an opening for receiving the anchor.

12. The portable flotation platform of claim 11 further comprising a closure for
30 holding the anchor in the strap of material.

13. The portable flotation platform of claim 12 further comprises a stop on the deck in alignment with the opening in the strap of material to limit movement of the pole through the opening.

5 14. The portable flotation platform of claim 8 wherein the anchor comprises a pole and the anchor storage further comprises a resiliently biased member on the deck to detachable secure the anchor to the deck, the member being adapted to deform to receive and release the anchor.

10 15. A portable flotation platform for supporting a load above the level of a body of water when deployed comprising:

a deck overall density less than that of water presenting a generally planar upper surface for the load;

15 a boat attachment device to be detachably secured to a boat and to the deck, which when connected to the boat and the deck holds the deck against horizontal movement relative to the boat;

a deck having at least one connector for detachably securing the deck to the boat attachment device for vertical movement of the deck relative to the boat attachment device; and

20 a carrying attachment for the deck for enabling a user to carry the deck to a point of deployment.

16. The portable flotation platform of claim 15 wherein the boat attachment device comprises a hook at its upper end to fit over the top of the side of the boat, a fastener to hold the attachment device against the boat, and a pole at its lower end.

25 17. The portable flotation platform of claim 16 wherein the connector comprises an aperture in the deck receiving the pole.

30 18. The portable flotation platform of claim 16 comprises a stop for limiting downward movement of the deck relative to the pole.

19. The portable flotation platform of claim 16 further comprises storage for the boat attachment device on the deck for detachably securing the anchor to the deck when the anchor is not deployed for carrying the anchor along with the deck to a point of deployment.

20. A portable flotation platform for supporting a load above the level of a body of water, the platform comprising:

10 a deck overall density less than that of water presenting a generally planar upper surface for the load;

an anchor device which when deployed and connected to the deck holds the deck against horizontal movement;

the deck having at least one connector for detachably securing the deck to the anchor device for vertical movement of the deck relative to the anchor; and

15 a pack adapted to receive and releaseably secure the deck and having a carrying attachment on the pack for enabling the user to carry the deck via the pack to a point of deployment.

21. The portable flotation platform of claim 20 wherein the pack comprises a bag having an opening at its upper end to receive the deck and the carrying attachment comprises a pair of shoulder straps on the bag.

22. The portable flotation platform of claim 20 wherein the pack comprises a bag having an opening at its upper end to receive the deck and the carrying attachment comprises a handle on the bag.